

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3 are amended to read as set forth below, and entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. A mark-up version showing the changes is attached as an appendix.

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1. (Twice Amended) A window operator for controlling the opening and closing movement of a window sash relative to a window frame, the window operator comprising a mounting wherein the window operator is mountable to an element of the window frame, an elongate threaded member mounted with the mounting, a drive mechanism to apply a rotational movement to the elongate threaded member, a threaded element located on the elongate threaded member, a hinge by which the window sash is hingedly mountable to the window frame, said hinge being connected to the mounting, the window operator further comprising a coupling moveable in response to movement of the threaded element on the elongate threaded member, the coupling being connected to a part of the hinge wherein movement of the coupling applies a moving force to said part of the hinge.

2. (Twice Amended) A window operator for controlling the movement of a window sash between open and closed positions relative to a window frame, the window operator comprising a mounting and drive transfer mountable in a cavity formed between the window sash and window frame when the window sash is in the closed position such that the mounting and drive transfer are not visible when the window sash is in the closed position, an operator handle and handle mounting mountable to a surface of the window frame, the operator handle being coupled to the drive transfer and the drive transfer being drivingly coupled to an elongate threaded member mounted with the mounting, a threaded element located on the elongate threaded member and a hinge comprising a sash mounting and at least one arm pivotally coupled at respective ends to the sash mounting and the mounting, a sliding element associated with the mounting and coupled to the sash mounting, the sliding element being coupled to the threaded element wherein movement of the threaded element applies a moving force to the hinge to, in use, cause the window sash mounted to the sash mounting to move between said open and closed positions.

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3. (Three Times Amended) A window operator as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a lost motion mechanism between the threaded element and the coupling, and an engagement device for, in use, engaging with a locking arrangement mountable with the window sash, the engagement device being movable by said lost motion mechanism to apply a locking action to the locking arrangement.